

The cross-ownership ban is a vital tool of free speech. If it is eliminated, media consolidation will inevitably lead to stifling of minority viewpoints, or those at odds with the media conglomerate.

I am old enough to remember the vital marketplace of ideas when most cities had at least two major newspapers. Now, far too often, the news all seems to come out of USA Today-style journalism lacking greatly in substance. In many communities, the Internet is the only channel for alternative viewpoints.

I urge you to maintain this important tool against the elimination of unpopular viewpoints. When our own president says anyone who is not with us is against us, it's absolutely critical.